Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Out of these 18 appointments were there promotions from service ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* All of them were promotions.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ സി. കൃഷ്ണൻ എന്നുമുതലാണ് ഇഴവനായത്? ഇല്ലാതെ വാലനല്ല ?

NEWS ITEMS IN THE "MADRAS MAIL" DATED 18TH NOVEMBER 1944— CESS ON TEA, COFFEE, ETC.

251. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have noted the News Item in "Madras Mail" dated 18th November 1944 under the caption "cess on tea, coffee and Betel-nut";

(*b*) whether they have noted the duty is paid only on cured commodities ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* May I know whether the practice is to collect duty only on cured arecanuts ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* Yes.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Can we take it that this duty is not to be imposed on raw arecanuts ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* According to the definition, once a nut is plucked from the tree it is treated as cured. In this view, raw nuts will also be taxed. The test is, if it is marketable, it will be subject to taxation.

TODDY SHOPS—LOCATION OF—NADAMA VILLAGE

252. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

what action did the Government take on the petition addressed to the Diwan by the public about the nuisance caused by the two toddy shops that exist very close to this branch road connecting the main road in front to the Nadama Village Office and the Hill Palace Road near the local market?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* The petition is being enquired into by the Government.

SALARY OF THE EXCISE STAFF—ENAMAVU VILLAGE

253. Mr. K. R. Achyuthan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state on what dates the salary of the Excise staff in the Enamavu range for the months beginning with Meenam 1119, and ending with Kanni 1120, was paid ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):*

Pay for		*Dates of disbursement*
Meenam	1119	10, 11 and 20— 9—19
Medam	,,	21, 22 and 23—10—19
Edavam	,,	14, 15 and 16—11—19
Mithunam	,,	19, 20, 21 and 23—12—19
Karkadagam	1119	13, 14 and 16— 1—20
Chingam	1120	12, 13 and 14— 2—20
Kanni	1120	14, 15 and 16— 3—20

Mr. K. R. Achyuthan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* What is Government's difficulty in disbursing the salary of the Excise staff at an earlier date ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* As I once before explained in this House, the tour statements obtained from the respective Sub-Inspectors have got to be checked and scrutinised in the Office of the Excise Commissioner. This will require some time. However seeing that this delay is a matter of common occurrance, Government are investigating into ways and means to solve the problem.

LAND EROSION- CHAMPAKKARA IN POONITHURA VILLAGE

254. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether there have been any cases of land erosion causing damages to buildings and fruit trees near Champakkara in Poonittura Village;

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